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OCI No. 1670/67

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
19 November 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Cyprus Situation
(As of 3:30 PM EST)

1. There have been no untoward incidents in Cyprus, and several steps have been taken which should lessen tension and reduce the possibility of military confrontation.

3. President Makarios has decided to permit UN inspection of Czech arms on the island, [redacted] the inspection has been set for the afternoon of 20 November. [redacted]

4. Makarios also told the Greek ambassador that the Government of Cyprus would provide "building materials and other needs" to the Turkish Cypriots in Ayios Theodoros and Kophinou villages. Reparations for damages to the villages had been a

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State Dept. review completed



major item which Turkish officials said they needed
to calm Turkish public opinion.



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OCI No. 1669/67

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
Directorate of Intelligence
19 November 1967

INTELLIGENCE MEMORANDUM

The Cyprus Situation
(As of 9:00 AM EST)

1. Cypriot Interior Minister Georkatzis states that there were several Turkish provocations on the island this morning--two of which involved sniping at Greek positions. In addition, a Turkish jet fighter reportedly flew over the entire west coast of the island at an altitude of about 600 feet.

2. General Grivas, accompanied only by an aide, departed Cyprus early this morning on a regularly scheduled commercial aircraft. The plane was delayed briefly, and apparently was searched for bombs before take-off.

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3. Late yesterday the Secretary General of the Turkish Foreign Ministry Kuneralp said that Grivas' removal was a "first step" but that it was not enough. He emphasized that it was also necessary to take away his "tools," the Greek troops which are a great source of tension. Unless this is done, he said, Ankara would be under constant pressure, which is already "very strong," to send troops to the island. He added that expressions of regret or planned indemnification from Athens, which would effectively reassure Turkish official and public opinion, had not been received.

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4. The note that Ankara passed to Athens late on 17 November has been described by a Greek foreign ministry official as a "protest note" rather than an "ultimatum." Kuneralp told Ambassador Hart that that description was accurate. Ambassador Talbot was informed by the Greek foreign ministry official that the note asked for Grivas' recall, "hinted" at removal of Greek troops, assigned full responsibility for events to Athens, and reserved the Turkish government's right to take necessary measures.

5. Confirmed Turkish Cypriot dead from the Ayios Theodoros-Kophinou fighting has now reached 31.

6. Ambassador Hart believes Kuneralp reacted calmly upon hearing of the distribution of the Czech arms to the Cypriot police, apparently because Ankara is focusing on the Greek controlled and armed National Guard. Ambassador Belcher reports that Makarios told the Greek ambassador that he would permit UN inspection of the arms. The Greek ambassador also "thinks" Makarios will comply with a Greek request to reassemble the distributed arms in some central warehouse.

7. Our embassy in Ankara believes that as of late yesterday the Demirel government had not made a decision to intervene militarily. Another attack of consequence on the Turkish Cypriot community, however, or psychological pressures generated by atrocity stories, continued patrols, or distribution of the Czech arms could force Demirel to move to protect the regime's domestic political position. The attitude of the Turkish military will play a major role in any decision he makes.

8. The US Country team in Athens believes that the Greek Government is expending every effort to prevent a situation which would justify a Turkish attack on Cyprus or Greece. They believe Greek preparations are aimed at mounting a credible retaliatory force to a Turkish attack in order to forestall further Turkish action.

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